

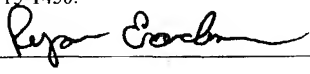
IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

CERTIFICATE OF EXPRESS MAILING

I hereby certify that this paper and the documents and/or fees referred to as attached therein are being deposited with the United States Postal Service on June 16, 2003, in an envelope as "Express Mail Post Office to Addressee" service under 37 CFR §1.10, Mailing Label Number **EV334022136US**, addressed to the Commissioner for Patents, Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450.

Attorney Docket No.: NMCIP040

First Named Inventor: Tetsujiro Tada


Ryan Eachus

UTILITY PATENT APPLICATION TRANSMITTAL (37 CFR. § 1.55)
(Regular application claiming priority of a foreign application)

Commissioner for Patents
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450

Sir: This is a request for filing a patent application under 37 CFR. § 1.55 in the name of inventors:
Tetsujiro Tada

For: **APPARATUS FOR AND METHOD OF SMOOTHING SUBSTRATE SURFACE**

Assigned to: **Nihon Microcoating Co., Ltd.**

Priority of prior Japan Application No. 2002-276505 filed on September 24, 2002 is claimed under 35 U.S.C. § 1.55.

Application Elements:

- ☒ 16 Pages of Specification, Claims and Abstract
- ☒ 5 Sheets of formal Drawings
- ☒ Combined Declaration and Power of Attorney
- ☐ Separate Declaration

Accompanying Application Parts:

- ☐ Do not publish this application. Nonpublication Request is attached.
- ☒ Assignment and Assignment Recordation Cover Sheet (recording fee of \$40.00 enclosed)
- ☐ Separate Power of Attorney by Assignee
- ☐ 37 CFR 3.73(b) Statement by Assignee
- ☐ Information Disclosure Statement with Form PTO-1449
 - ☐ Copies of IDS Citations
- ☒ Certified copy of priority document
- ☒ Return Receipt Postcard

Claim For Foreign Priority

☒ Priority of prior Japan Application No. 2002-276505 filed on September 24, 2002 is claimed under 35 U.S.C. § 1.55.

☒ The certified copy is enclosed.

☐ The certified copies will follow.

☐ Amend the specification by inserting before the first line the sentence:

"This application claims the benefit of U.S. Provisional Application No. filed on , the disclosure of which is incorporated herein by reference."

Fee Calculation (37 CFR § 1.16)

☒ Applicant is entitled to Small Entity Status under 37 C.F.R. §1.27.

| | (Col. 1) Total Claims | | (Col. 2) Claims | (Col. 3) Present Extra | Rate | Additional Fee |
|---|--------------------------|-------|--------------------|---------------------------|---------|----------------|
| TOTAL | 12 | MINUS | 20 | = 0 | x 18 = | 0.00 |
| INDEP. | 4 | MINUS | 3 | = 1 | x 84 = | 84.00 |
| [] First presentation of multiple dependent claim | | | | | \$280 = | |
| Basic Filing Fee under 37 C.F.R. §1.16(a) | | | | | \$750 = | 750.00 |
| TOTAL | | | | | | 834.00 |
| SMALL ENTITY 50% FILING FEE REDUCTION (if applicable) | | | | | | 417.00 |

☒ Check No. 7584 in the amount of \$457 is enclosed.

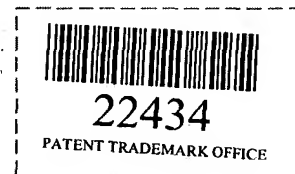
☒ The Commissioner is authorized to charge any fees beyond the amount enclosed which may be required, or to credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account No. 500388 (Order No. NMCIP040).

General Authorization for Petition for Extension of Time (37 CFR §1.136)


☒ Applicants hereby make and generally authorize any Petitions for Extensions of Time as may be needed for any subsequent filings. The Commissioner is also authorized to charge any extension fees under 37 CFR §1.17 as may be needed to Deposit Account No. 500388 (Order No. NMCIP040).

☒ Please send correspondence to the following address:

Customer Number 022434



Date: July 9, 2003


Keiichi Nishimura
Registration No. 29,093